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Synopsis of History

with special reference to Architecture, Painting, Sculpture and the Derivative Arts

DEFINITIVE EDITION

THE Synopsis is a folder closing to the size of the Handbook page and containing on one side a table of important events during all recorded history and on the other a glossary of less well-known names and terms. A preliminary edition was announced in the Bulletin of April, 1921. In the definitive edition which has just been published the Synopsis has been enlarged from six to eight leaves. The plan is otherwise unchanged. The table of events is divided into six columns, denoting geographical regions, arranged on either side a central column inscribed with dates by half millenia to 2000 B.C. and thence by centuries down to the present. The columns on the left are devoted to Europe (including America), the Levant (Egypt, Byzantium and Arabia), and Western Asia (Asia Minor, Mesopotamia, Persia and Turkestan). The columns on the right of the date are devoted to India, China and Japan. As the items are given approximately their place within the centuries, the table offers a synchronology of such events in recorded history as are of main interest from the point of view of the tangible fine arts.

The importance of the contribution of the East to the total work of civilization, especially in the arts, is made plain to the eye in the Synopsis. The central column of dates divides the world by the line of the River Indus — the ancient line that has cut civilization in two during the whole past and that it will be the work of the future to obliterate.

The Synopsis has already received a warm welcome where it has been shown and will, it is hoped, prove useful to students of fine art generally in our museums, schools and colleges. Many persons beyond school years will doubtless also find it a convenience to possess in portable form a framework of important events in proper chronological relation upon which to fasten in place other historical knowledge.

The Synopsis is sold at the entrance of the Museum at twenty-five cents a copy, $2.50 per dozen, or $15 per hundred. Orders may be addressed to the Secretary of the Museum.

Exhibitions of Recent Gifts

AN exhibition of recent gifts from Dr. Denman W. Ross opened in the first gallery of Japanese Idealistic Paintings on April 25 and continued until May 20.

An exhibition of recent gifts from Dr. William Sturgis Bigelow opened in the central gallery of Japanese Idealistic Paintings on May 4 and continued through the month.

Notes

"THE GEOMETRY OF GREEK VASES," by Dr. L. D. Caskey (No. V in the series "Communications to the Trustees"), which was announced in the Bulletin for April, has since been issued. The book may be obtained at the entrance of the Museum or on application to the Secretary of the Museum. Price, $6.25 postpaid.

"THE DANCE OF SIVA," fourteen Indian essays by Dr. Ananda Coomaraswamy, Keeper of Indian and Muhammadan Art at this Museum, of which a notice appeared in the Bulletin for August, 1918, has just been published in a French translation as one of the series of "Les Prosateurs étrangers modernes." The translator is Mlle. Madeleine Rolland, and her brother, the well-known writer, M. Romain Rolland, contributes an appreciative *avant-propos.*

A translation of the book into German, by Ivan Goll, is in preparation. It is now out of print in English.

"MUSEUM IDEALS," by Benjamin Ives Gilman, printed by order of the Trustees, 1918, is now out of print. A new edition with an Index is in preparation and is expected to appear in the early autumn.

A REPORT to the Advisory Committee on Education upon Instruction at the Museum, prepared by the Secretary and presented to the Committee at their meeting of April 13, has since been privately printed. Copies may be obtained by addressing the Secretary of the Museum.

MISS MARTHA J. FENDERSON, for thirty-five years Assistant Librarian at the Museum, retired from its active service on June 1. Miss Fenderson leaves the Museum with the regrets, the gratitude and the good wishes of the Trustees and all her daily associates. Her equable judgment, information, sense of humor, fidelity and readiness for every duty have made themselves felt throughout the Museum at all times during her long service.

MR. HENRY PRESTON ROSSITER, Assistant Curator of the Print Department until his resignation, announced in the Bulletin of October, 1921, has been appointed Acting Curator of the Department. Mr. Rossiter left the service of the Museum to become Curator of the new Print Department of the National Gallery of Canada, at Ottawa. It is expected that Mr. Rossiter will take up his duties at this Museum on September 1 next.

DRAWING INSTRUCTION FOR CHILDREN. The summer classes, in charge of Miss Jeannette Greenberg, begin on July 5 and continue through August, on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings, from 10 to 12. The fee for the course is one dollar. Apply for registration to Miss Wheeler, Assistant in Instruction at the Museum.